

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed March 4, 2008, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, amendments have been made in the claims, and each of the rejections set forth in the Office Action has been carefully considered and is addressed below. The claims as presented are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-21 were previously pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 10, 16, and 19-21 are amended herein. No claims are added or canceled. As a result, claims 1-21 remain pending in this examination, with claims 1, 10, 19 and 21 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,880,007 to Gardos et al. ("Gardos"). Independent claims 1, 10, 19 and 21 are amended herein, and patentably distinguish over Gardos.

A. Brief Overview Of Embodiments Of The Invention

Some embodiments of the invention provide a system for managing digital vital records (e.g., domain name records). The system allows a user to manage "critical elements" of (i.e., various information relating to) the digital vital records (see Applicants' specification at, e.g., p. 6, lines 2-4). The critical elements of a domain name record may include, for example, registrant information (e.g., the name and address of a company), contact information (e.g., the name, physical address and/or email address of an administrative, billing, legal and/or technical contact), and/or domain name server information (e.g., the server(s) corresponding to the domain name through which traffic is routed (p. 7, line 20 – p. 8, line 7)).

In some embodiments, one or more profiles are provided for each critical element, wherein each profile specifies information that instantiates an organization's policies and procedures with respect to the management of the record (p. 8, lines 9-11). For example, the

profiles for the “contact information” critical element for a domain name record may each specify a name, physical address and/or e-mail address of a person in an organization previously designated as a potential contact for the domain name record (p. 8, lines 11-15). By specifying predetermined contacts for a domain name record, the system reduces the risk that a user will designate a contact erroneously, or designate a contact that later leaves the organization, so that information sent from a domain name registrar fails to reach a party responsible for management of domain name records at the organization (p. 8, lines 16-20).

Some embodiments provide a system that enables users to perform actions on digital records such as registering or modifying a domain name (p. 10, lines 10-11). To register a new domain name, a user may select from profiles for critical elements such as contact, DNS profile and invoice critical elements (p. 10, lines 11-13). Specifically, for each critical element, a user may be presented with one or more predetermined profiles to choose from (e.g., via pull-down menus), and is not allowed to modify or add to the information in any profile (p. 10, lines 13-15). As a result, the user is confined to using predetermined profiles, which reflect the organization’s policies with regard to user’s requested action on the digital record (p. 10, lines 15-18).

The foregoing overview is provided to assist the Examiner in appreciating certain aspects of the invention. However, the overview does not necessarily apply to each of the independent claims, and the language of the independent claims may differ in material respects from the examples described in the overview. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give careful consideration to the language of each independent claim and to address each on its own merits, without relying on the overview provided above. In this respect, the overview is not relied upon to distinguish any of the claims over the prior art. Rather, Applicants rely only upon the remarks and arguments below.

B. Independent Claims 1, 10, 19 and 21

Each of independent claims 1, 10, 19 and 21 includes limitations directed to receiving a request for an action on a digital record comprising critical elements, and presenting one or more profiles for at least one of the critical elements, the one or more profiles being predetermined so

as to instantiate digital record management procedures of an organization by preventing a selection of an invalid profile (i.e., one not permitted by the organization's procedures). That is, as stated above, the user may not modify or add to a profile, since doing so would breach the integrity of the organization's record management procedures.

Gardos fails to satisfy all of the limitations recited by each of independent claims 1, 9, 10 and 19, as Gardos fails to disclose or suggest presenting one or more profiles for at least one critical element for a digital record, wherein the profile(s) are predetermined so as to instantiate digital record management procedures of an organization by preventing a selection of an invalid profile.

Gardos discloses a system which enables a user to register, modify and manage domain name records (Abstract). The system presents the screen interface depicted in FIG. 4A, which displays various information 201 relating to a domain name registrant, including the registrant's name and the domain name being reviewed (col. 9, lines 4-9). Using the screen interface of FIG. 4A, a user may select for modification any of several categories of information relating to the domain name record (col. 9, lines 33-35). When a user selects a particular category of information, the system imposes no constraint on the type of modification that the user may perform (see, e.g., col. 9, line 33 *et seq.*). For example, if the user selects the "Domain Name Servers (DNS)" category 209 on the screen interface of FIG. 4A, the system presents the screen interface shown in FIG. 4B, which allows the user to enter free-form text identifying a new DNS server (FIG. 4B; col. 9, lines 47-51). No mechanism is disclosed or suggested by Gardos for imposing a centralized set of digital record management procedures. Far from "presenting one or more profiles for at least one of the critical elements, the one or more profiles being predetermined so as to instantiate digital record management procedures of an organization by preventing a selection of an invalid profile," as required by each of independent claims 1, 10, 19 and 21, the system of Gardos provides no mechanism which limits a user to selecting from predetermined, valid profiles for at least one critical element of a digital record.

Consequently, Gardos fails to satisfy all of the limitations recited by each of independent claims 1, 10, 19 and 21, so that each of these claims patentably distinguishes over Gardos.

Accordingly, the rejection of these claims, and of the claims that depend respectively therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by Gardos should be withdrawn.


CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

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Respectfully submitted,

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